

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66615

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:MRDWORKEN:DME

APPROVED BY S/S-O:LMATTESON

NEA/ARP:MR. LUMSDEN (PHONE)

S/S-O:LMATTESON

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R 122309Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCPAC

COMIDEASTFOR

S E C R E T STATE 032459

EXDIS; MIL ADDEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL REPEAT ABU DHABI 232 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DOHA JIDDA  
MANAMA MUSCAT KUWAIT SANAA TEHRAN JAN 30

QTE

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 0232

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, US, TC, MU

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF UJA FOREIGN MINISTER ON SULTAN

QABUS VISIT TO US

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI JANUARY 26

I USED STATE 16451 TO BRIEF HIM ON USG-OMAN DISCUSSIONS IN

WASHINGTON. ON ARMS REQUESTS I TOLD HIM MERELY THAT OMANIS

HAD SOUGHT CERTAIN ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT AND WE WERE

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TRYING TO BE HELPFUL. FONMIN DID NOT PRESS FOR FUTHER DETAILS AND

I DID NOT GIVE HIM ANY. I SAID THERE WAS NO INTENTION ON PART OF USG TO BECOME DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN OMANI MILITARY EFFORT BEYOND SUPPLYING CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.

2. ON MASIRAH, I TOLD SUWAIDI WE HAD REQUESTED OMANI PERMISSION FOR OCCASIONAL USE OF BRITISH AIRFIELD AND SULTAN HAD AGREED. SUWAIDI ASKED HOW WE INTENDED TO USE ISLAND. I REPLIED DISCUSSIONS WERE STILL UNDERWAY AND I HAD NO FURTHER DETAILS AT THIS TIME. SUWAID I ASKED IF OUR USE OF MASIRAH WAS RELATED TO OUR MILITARY PRESENCE IN GULF. I SAID I DID NOT THINK SO; RATHER IT WAS RELATED TO OUR PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN. I KNEW OF NO PLANS FOR CHANGE IN EITHER SIZE OR ACTIVITIES OF OUR SHOW-THE-FLAG SQUADRON IN GULF WHICH HE KNEW ALL ABOUT.

3. SUWAIDI SAID HE WAS SORRY TO SEE NAVAL "ARMS RACE" TAKE PLACE BETWEEN US AND SOVIETS IN INDIAN OCEAN. I SAID US DID NOT WANT ARMS RACE EITHER, BUT WE WERE CONFRONTED BY STEADY GROWTH OF SOVIET NAVAL POWER IN INDIAN OCEAN IN RECENT YEARS. WE HAD GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS RESPECT AND WE DID NOT SEE IT TO BE IN EITHER OUR OWN INTEREST OR INTEREST OF OUR FRIENDS IN AREA TO HAVE A SOVIET FLEET IN THE AREA AND NO US PRESENCE. SUWAIDI SAID WE WERE TALKING ABOUT TWO EVILS, BUT OF DIFFERING MAGNITUDE. ARMS RACE IN AREA WAS BAD OF ITSELF, BUT HE HAD TO ADMIT HE WOULD BE MORE UNHAPPY TO SEE SOVIETS CRUISING AROUND ALONE.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SUWAIDI DID NOT CRITICIZE US USE OF MASIRAH FACILITY, HIS LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR ANY SUPERPOWER MILITARY PRESENCE IN AREA CAME THROUGH IN THIS CONVERSATION. HE NEVERTHELESS SEEMED TO ACCEPT ARGUMENT THAT IT WOULD NOT BE IN UAE INTEREST FOR SOVIETS TO BE ONLY MILITARY PRESENCE IN AREA.  
STERNER

UNQUOTE  
INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY BASES, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Subject:** BRIEFING OF UJA FOREIGN MINISTER ON SULTAN QABUS VISIT TO US  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MPOL, US, TC, MU  
**To:** LONDON MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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